

In the Specification:

Delete the paragraph starting on page 7, line 11 and ending on line 20 and replace with the following paragraph:

Referring next to FIG. 6 the pair of co-planar coring ovals 22 is the preferred embodiment of the phase 2 coring process, but equivalents include a single coring oval or more than two coring ovals. Also equivalents to an oval include a circle. The essential inventive step of the present invention is a phase 1 piercing point 19 which pierces the skin of a food item before the phase 2 coring element enters the food item. The preferred embodiment of piercing point 19 includes a blade having a narrow center portion 60 which tapers outward to wider edges 61,62.